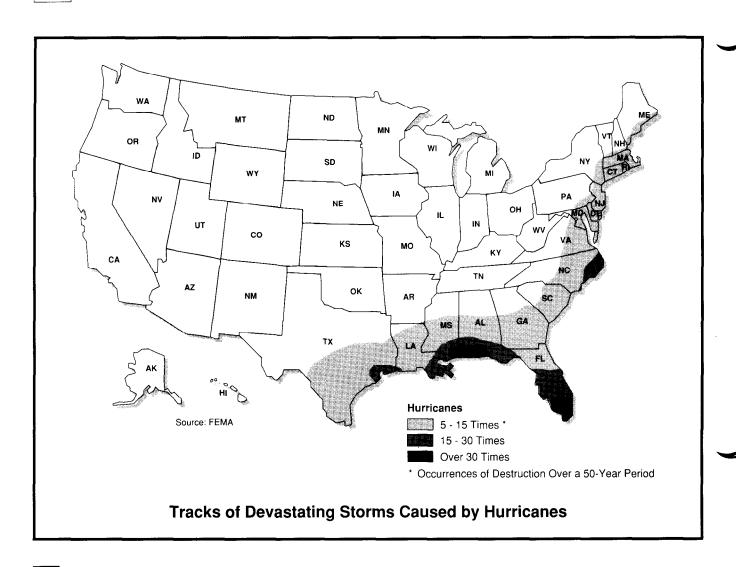
## **Emergency Preparedness U.S.A.**



# HURRICANE

### Description

Hurricanes are severe tropical storms that spiral around a calm center known as the eye. Wind speeds range from 74 miles per hour to a high of 220 miles per hour. As hurricanes approach land, they create a storm surge along the coastline that raises water several feet above high tide levels. Hurricanes also dump heavy rains and cause flooding as they travel inland.

### Related Hazards

Hurricanes may be accompanied by other severe storm hazards such as lightning, tornados, and flooding.

#### Geographical Considerations

Vulnerable areas in the United States include the territories in the Caribbean, the coast from Texas to Maine, and tropical areas of the western Pacific Ocean, including Hawaii.